

1817

Mint of the United States
January 1st, 1818

James Monroe
President of the United States
Washington City

Sir:

I have the honor of laying before you a report on the operations of the Mint during the last year.

About the beginning of May, the repairs of the Mint having been nearly completed, and a considerable quantity of Silver Bullion then in our vaults, the coinage was recommenced; and since that time, as will appear from the statement of the Treasurer, herewith transmitted, there have been struck

In Silver Coins 1,215,567 pieces amounting to Dollars 607,783.50 and

In Copper Coins 3,948,400 amounting to Dollars 39,484.00 making

In the whole 5,163,967 pieces, amounting to Dollars 647,267.50.

The coinage of the Gold Bullion at present in our vaults, amounting to Dollars 57,540, will be immediately commenced.

The large deposits of Silver imported from South America, the West Indies and Europe, and chiefly made by the Bank of the United States, with the pressing solicitation of an early return in coins, will, it is presumed, justify an extension of the operations of the Mint.

For this purpose, however, there will be required a small addition (say about Six Thousand Dollars), to the estimates for contingent expenses, furnished to the Treasury Department, prior to the meeting of Congress; and much more than this sum might be spared from the fund appropriated for the purchase of Copper, which, from the profits of coinage, has now accumulated to upwards of Dollars 58,000, fully twice as much as it would be necessary to reserve for that object.

I have the honor to be, Sir
Your most obt. Servt
Rt Patterson

[Tables]

The tables are omitted here but they show that the silver coins were half dollars and the copper coinage was composed of cents. They also show that in 1817 the Mint paid out in salaries \$9,600.00, in wages \$7,126.16, and incidental & contingent expenses \$15,290.55.